

From: Buckeyeswede@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 1:33pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement C/O Renata Hesse, Esq

Thank you MS Hesse for allowing me to respond to the above settlement. I had the opportunity in the mid 60's to be involved with the startup of a small software/hardware company in Sunnyvale California. We had a tough time getting the company going and had encounters with larger companies who were trying to defeat our company's mission of being the best in the market. We fought back and we eventually grew strong and became the leader in the industry. We received a good offer from a major organization after our sales were in excess of \$100 million per year. That is why I defend the free marketplace.

The issue here is similar, but only larger in scope. Messieurs Gates and Allen together with a good support team have build a wonderful company that addresses the marketplace. The marketplace is the key issue here with Microsoft. They know the market and the market likes and trusts their product and support line. Sure there is good competition, but it has to remain fair and not negative in its actions. It appears to me that some of their competitors did not analyze the market in enough detail. Therefore, they did not get the market share that they had hoped for in their business model. The settlement is fair and I trust your department will uphold the settlement agreement.

Thank you for your attention to my notes.

Carl E. Holmberg

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